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PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION
(Security Classification)

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM American Embassy, Taipei.

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

REF

Embassy Despatch 233, November 13, 1952, "Legislative Yuan President's Comments on Kuomintang Affairs".

4	ACTION	DEPT.	OLI	IBS	IFI	NOV 14 1952
For Dept.	FE	IN	OLI	IBS	IFI	DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
Use Only	REC'D	FO	OTHER			REVIEWED BY P. C. [Signature] DATE 11/16/52
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SUBJECT: Comments of Kuomintang Secretary-General upon Party Seventh National Congress.

There is transmitted a memorandum of conversation between the reporting officer and [redacted] of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang.

[redacted] appears to be held in high regard by the President.

The content of the conversation in itself was not so unusual as the amount of printed material which [redacted] supplied concerning the Kuomintang National Congress. Perhaps the most significant fact, especially when taken in conjunction with the conversation with [redacted] reported in the reference despatch, was the readiness to discuss and give information concerning Party affairs. The attitude seems to reflect a feeling that a better understanding by Americans of the Party objectives and difficulties was desirable, and that this was best obtained by supplying information directly rather than leaving it to be obtained incompletely or colored by the views of informants more often than not representing the opposition.

A copy of this despatch has been sent to Hong Kong.

Action Assigned to CA

Action Taken

K. L. Rankin

Date of Action

Action Office Symbol

Name of Officer

Attention to DC/R

Enclosure: [Signature]

Memorandum of Conversation with Dr. Chang Chi-yan.

RT
RTEwing:jp
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ACTION COPY - DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

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CONFIDENTIAL FILE

DEC 1 1952

Memorandum of Conversation

Participants:

[REDACTED] of the
Kuomintang Central Executive Committee;

1301 (b)

Richard T. EWING, Second Secretary of Embassy.

Subject: Kuomintang Affairs.

Date: November 10, 1952.

I explained to [REDACTED] that I had called in connection with the meeting of the 7th Kuomintang Congress, which was held in Taipei from October 10-20, 1952. Since the meetings had been held in secret, I would appreciate any information he could give me which would help in understanding the significance of the Congress. Although one of the secretaries in [REDACTED] office was present to act as an interpreter, [REDACTED] (whom I believe also speaks some English) preferred that we carry on a direct conversation in Chinese. As [REDACTED] speaks with something of a dialect and often quite rapidly, he was at times difficult to follow. What is set down below, however, I believe represents accurately the substance of what he said.

In answer to a question whether he could supply me with a copy of the new constitution of the Party, [REDACTED] replied in the affirmative. He gave me for my own use a report, printed by the Secretary-General's office and marked "For Party members, secret to outsiders", which contained an account of the proceedings of the National Congress including the basic documents adopted by the Congress. [REDACTED] said that the revisions of the Party Constitution had not affected the basic spirit of that document. The most important change, according to [REDACTED] was to provide a place for the elder Party members who had been replaced in the new Central Executive Committee. The average age in the latter body, which evidently has been considered a matter of some importance, is now 46. A "Senate" composed of 48 members, whose average age is 64, was therefore established to hold the Party elders.

The basic aims of the Kuomintang, [REDACTED] said, were that China should be ruled by the Chinese (i.e., at the present time anti-Communism and resist-Russia), to achieve political democracy, and to industrialize China. These conform to the teachings of Dr. SUN Yat-sen. He listed five principal achievements of the National Congress:

(1) Adoption of the Basic Theory of Anti-Communism and Resist-Russia. This document was written by President CHIANG Kai-shek, Kuomintang Director-General. It has not yet been

released publicly; [redacted] said that an official English translation was now in progress and would be published soon. He pointed out as very important parts of the document the discussions concerning the weak points of the Communists and the real way to avoid a third world war. [redacted]

- (2) The revision of the Party Constitution.
- (3) The adoption of the Party Platform.
- (4) The adoption of the Guiding Principles for the Party.
- (5) The election of the Central Executive Committee and the arranging of party affairs.

In addition to the report to the members of the Kuomintang on the proceedings of the National Congress, [redacted] turned over, on a confidential basis, the report of the first meeting of the Standing Committee of the Central Executive Committee. He explained that the secrecy imposed upon the Congress and with relation to the membership of the various organs of the Kuomintang was to avoid giving that information to the Communists who might use it as a propaganda weapon. He said this policy had not been directed towards the Americans who were friendly and cooperating with the Chinese Government. Throughout the interview, [redacted] was very cordial and expressed a readiness to answer questions and supply information about the Party. He said that in the future should I have any questions, he would be happy to answer them to the best of his ability. In closing, [redacted] remarked that he thought, [redacted] he was in a better position to give accurate information concerning Party matters than many of the persons who for reasons of their own might seek to inform the Embassy.

Comment: Perhaps the most significant fact about the conversation was the willingness and even pleasure with which [redacted] supplied information concerning Party organization and policy. Much of this had not been previously available to the Embassy.